

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for protecting an embedded software, whereby a verification mechanism of
the embedded software is modified as to require the embedded software to be
operated in coordination with hardware characteristics of an authorized electronic
information appliance , the electronic information appliance having a storage device
and firmware to enable execution of the embedded software only in the authorized
electronic information appliance, the method comprising steps of:
 - (1) having a first program of the embedded software store parameters to be
transmitted in a first address of the storage device, and having the embedded
software pass a parameter access authorization through a function of the
firmware to the firmware of the electronic information appliance;
 - (2) having the firmware rearrange and store the parameters in a second address
of the storage device, and handing over the authorization to the embedded
software; and
 - (3) having the embedded software call and pass the authorization to a second
program of the embedded software, and having the second program extract
the parameters from a default parameter address, and determining whether
the parameters are correct, wherein, if the parameters are correct, the
embedded software is properly executed, otherwise the embedded software
is disabled.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic information appliance is a storage
server.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the storage device is a memory.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the firmware is a basic input/output system (BIOS).

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first program is a main program of the embedded software.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the address of the storage device in step (1) is a buffer in the memory.
- 5 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the function provided by the firmware is an appliance management interrupt (SMI) function.
8. The method of claim 1, further comprising encoding and rearranging the sequence of the parameters before having the firmware rearrange and store the parameters according to a different sequence in a second address of the storage device in step
10 (2).
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the second program is an auxiliary program of the embedded software.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the embedded software is storage management software.